



Bronchitis in Children (Acute Bronchitis)



Overview

This is an inflammation of the bronchi. They are the large airways in the lungs. For most children, bronchitis is a mild condition that goes away on its own.

Causes

What causes bronchitis? Well, it most often results from a viral infection. It can follow a common cold. It can also be caused by things that irritate the lungs. These include dust, smoke and fumes. Allergens and asthma attacks can trigger it, too. Your child may be more likely to get bronchitis if they have frequent sinus infections, or if they have enlarged tonsils or adenoids.

Symptoms

In the early stages of bronchitis, your child may have a dry cough. Later, this can turn into a mucus-filled cough. Your child may also have a runny nose and a sore throat. They may have fever, chills and muscle pains. And, they may feel unwell in general.

Treatment

Bronchitis is generally treated at home with rest and plenty of fluids. A humidifier may help, too. Usually, symptoms get better after a few weeks. Your doctor will create a care plan that's right for you.

